



BATMAN:
DARK PATTERNS

13+
TEEN 8

BATMAN

DARK PATTERNS



Spotted in the Rookery neighborhood for

By Nicky Harris

Confirmed reports put Gotham's
own Bat-Man deep in the heart
of the Rookery last night. The
focused crusade continues. There's no pla
Said one
this have had no

WATTERS
SHERMAN
FARRELL

PAREIDOLIA PART TWO

ONLY SUPERMAN STANDS BETWEEN EARTH AND ANNIHILATION.

SUPERMAN

TREASURY 2025

HERO FOR ALL

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BRUNO REDONDO,
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ALL IN

JULY

Gotham's
most trusted
source.

"The people's paper." - Rupert Thorne

The Den

No. 25,105

Final
Edition

BAT AMONG THE BIRDS



Bat-Man vigilante spotted in the Rookery neighborhood for the third night running

By Nicky Harris

Confirmed reports put Gotham's own Bat-Man deep in the heart of the Rookery last night as his

focused crusade continues. The locals have had no peace since this haunting began, and there

appear to be no signs of it slowing down.

"I just wish it would go away."



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most trusted
source.

"The people's paper." - Rupert Thorne

The Den

No. 25,107

Final
Edition

HOLY BAT-VENDETTA!



Bat-Man continues to be spotted prowling

By Nicky Harris

The end appears to be nowhere in sight for the poor residents of the Rookery.

Though left with nothing to claim, the people have found the Bat an unwelcome

who wishes to remain nameless. To date no one can pin down the exact reasoning.



Gotham's
most trusted
source.

"The people's paper." - Rupert Thorne

The Den

No. 25,108

Final
Edition

TERROR OF THE ROOKERY



Residents live in fear of encountering the creature of the night who has made their home his own

By Nicky Harris

What could the Bat-Man need that so terrifies the once great Rookery? Is this a vendetta? Can

None but the Bat-Man itself can say. And if there's any telling from these past weeks, he

won't be telling anytime soon. This will continue until it decides upon a new course, of





IT'S BEEN ALMOST A WEEK, AND YOU'VE TURNED UP ZERO LEADS IN THE ROOKERY.

AND DR. SEREIKA'S TURNED UP ZERO LEADS FROM THE BODY.
I THOUGHT YOU WERE MEANT TO BE GOOD AT THIS.



YOU HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY THAN THAT, BATMAN.

YOU KNOW I CAN'T FIND WHAT ISN'T THERE.



THE DEAD SPEAK THROUGH THEIR BONES...

...BUT SOMETIMES THEY DON'T HAVE ALL THAT MUCH TO SAY.



BATMAN. IS IT WORTH IT?

SINCE YOU'VE BEEN PATROLLING JUST THIS ONE NEIGHBORHOOD THERE HAVE BEEN TWO OTHER MURDERS.

THE BURNSIDE CASE. YOU ALREADY HAVE THE HUSBAND IN CUSTODY. HE DID IT.

THE NEWTOWN DROWNING WAS THE BUSINESS PARTNERS.

YOUR DETECTIVES WILL FIGURE THAT OUT.



NO ONE'S
EVEN **LOOKING**
AT THIS ONE
BUT ME.



I JUST MEAN
TO SAY YOU'RE
GENERATING
PANIC.

THE ROOKERY
IS A ROUGH ENOUGH
PLACE TO LIVE WITHOUT
YOU PROWLING THE
ROOFTOPS.

THERE ARE
OTHER CASES WORTH
YOUR TIME.

EQUALLY,
THERE ARE DEFINITELY
OTHER CASES I COULD BE
UTILIZING DR. SEREIKA'S
TALENTS FOR.



GORDON!

THIS
MATTERS.



EVERY BONE,
SEREIKA. WITH
A FINE-TOOTH
COMB.

AND IF
YOU COME
UP EMPTY,
YOU DO IT
AGAIN.



ALWAYS
A PLEASURE,
BATMAN.

HE LOOKS
EXHAUSTED.



NICKY HARRIS.

BAH!

THESE ARE
BEGINNING TO
IRRITATE ME.

AH, YES,
WELL.

YOU
DON'T CALL.
YOU DON'T
WRITE...

HOW ELSE
IS A TABLOID HACK
MEANT TO GET YOUR
ATTENTION?

YOU'VE
BEEN WRITING THIS
BILGE TO GET IN
TOUCH WITH ME?

I'M **BUSY**,
HARRIS.



I'M WORRIED
YOU'VE BEEN LED
ASTRAY.



I DIDN'T
ASK YOUR
OPINION ON MY
ACTIVITIES.

IT'S NOT
JUST THE
ROOKERY.

IT'S THE
COMPANY
YOU'VE BEEN
KEEPING.



YOU'RE
WORKING WITH
DR. SEREIKI,
CORRECT?

THE FORENSICS
EXPERT WHO WAS
FIRED FROM THE
FLORIDA BODY
FARM?



FIRED?



GOD,
DON'T YOU
KNOW WHAT
HE DID?

YOU
MIGHT WANT
TO HEAR THIS,
BATMAN...





The story Nicky Harris
told me about Sereika
echoes in my head.

It's...disturbing.
But something to
deal with later.

It is frustrating
to admit the crime
scene remains as
unforthcoming
as the body.

The ground is
tarmac. It reveals
nothing by way of
footprints.

The structure of
the launderette
was old and
primarily wooden.

It required no excess
accelerant to begin a
fire here. Just a
match or a lighter.

Nothing that
can be traced.

Any DNA or
fingerprints were
lost to the blaze...

Oh
\$%£@!

I
think he
sees us!

RUN!

Someone in the
Rookery knows
who did this.

Who is trying to
evoke the myth of
the Red Hood Gang,
who once resided
here.

The Rookery does
not want me here.
That has been
made evident.

Too bad. This
is still Gotham.
My city.



I will drag her truths kicking and screaming into the light.

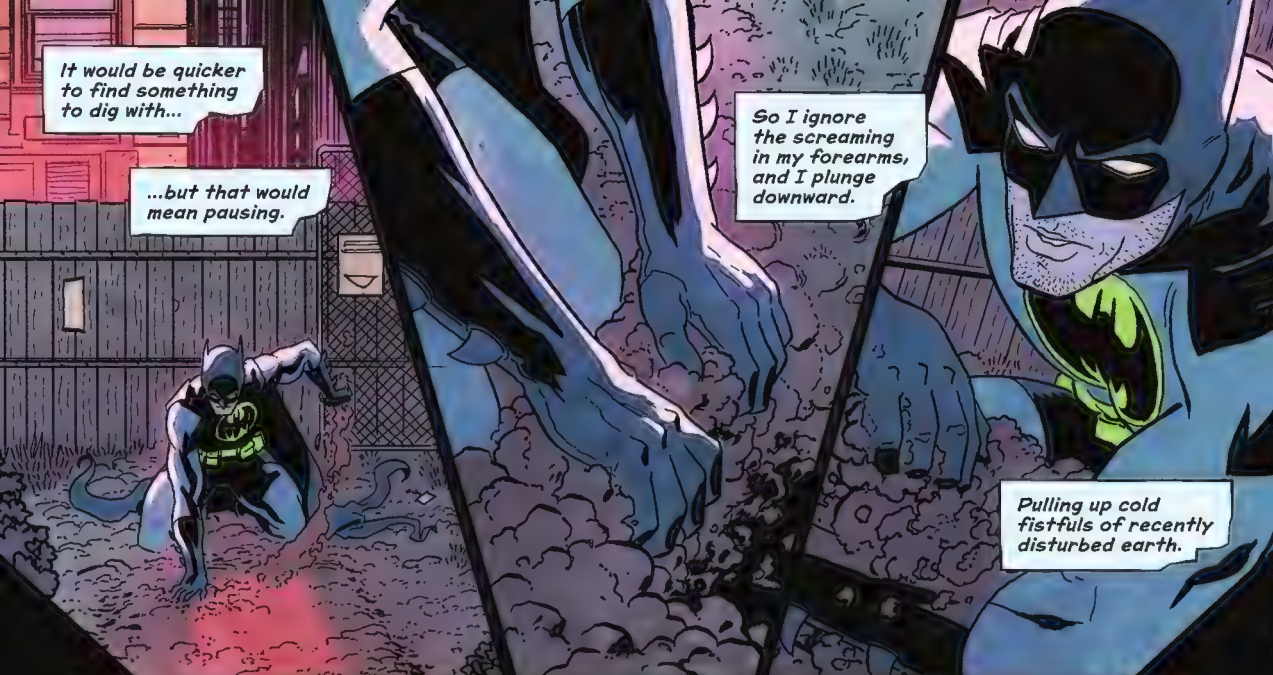
A grave.

Fresh.

Wait.

Less than two hundred meters from the site of the fire. Perhaps another victim.

Perhaps an unburned body, rich in forensic evidence.

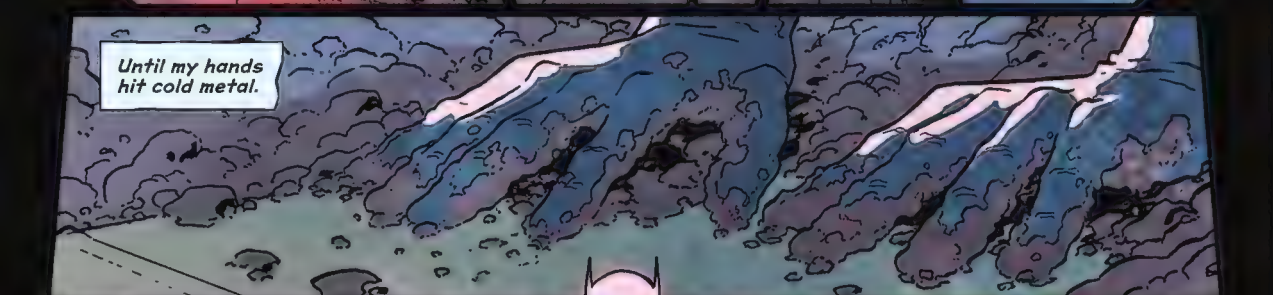
A comic book panel showing Batman in a trench. He is wearing his blue and black suit with a yellow bat emblem on the chest. He is looking down at the ground. The trench is filled with dark, disturbed earth. In the background, there is a wooden fence and a building with red shutters.

*It would be quicker
to find something
to dig with...*

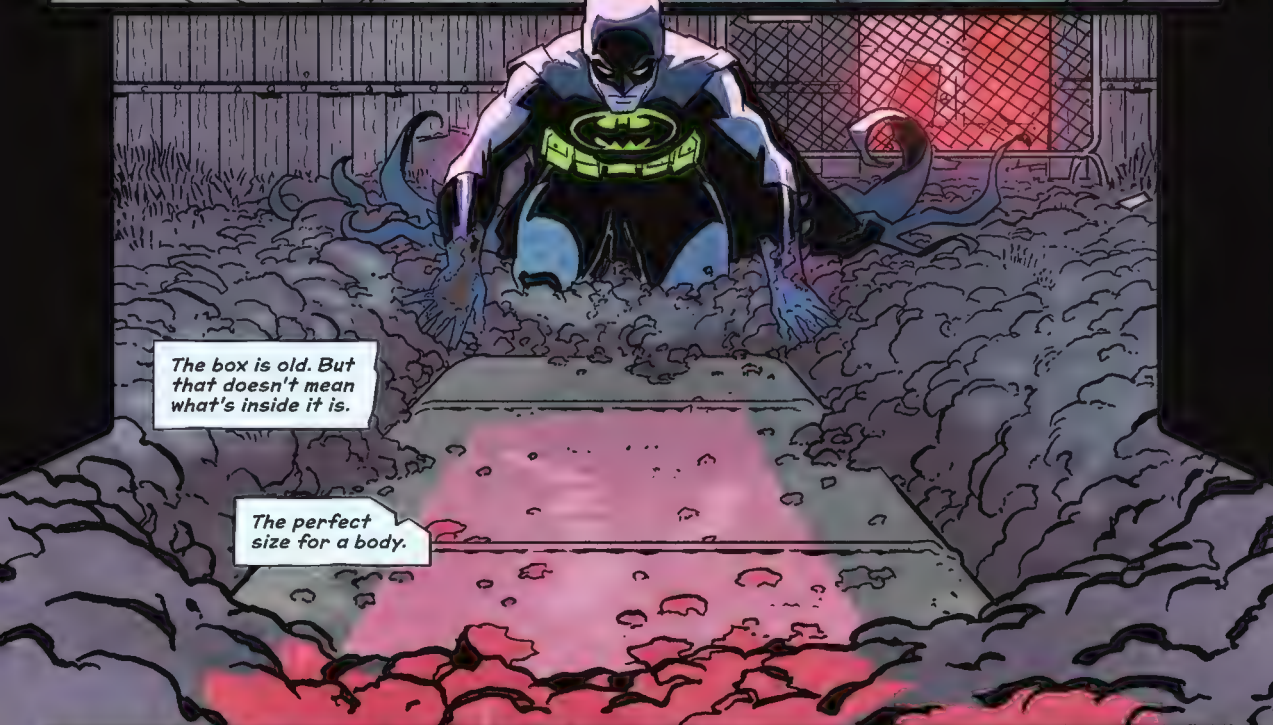
*...but that would
mean pausing.*

*So I ignore
the screaming
in my forearms,
and I plunge
downward.*

*Pulling up cold
fistfuls of recently
disturbed earth.*

A comic book panel showing Batman digging in the trench. He is using his hands to pull up clumps of dark earth. The trench is filled with dark, disturbed earth. In the background, there is a wooden fence and a building with red shutters.

*Until my hands
hit cold metal.*

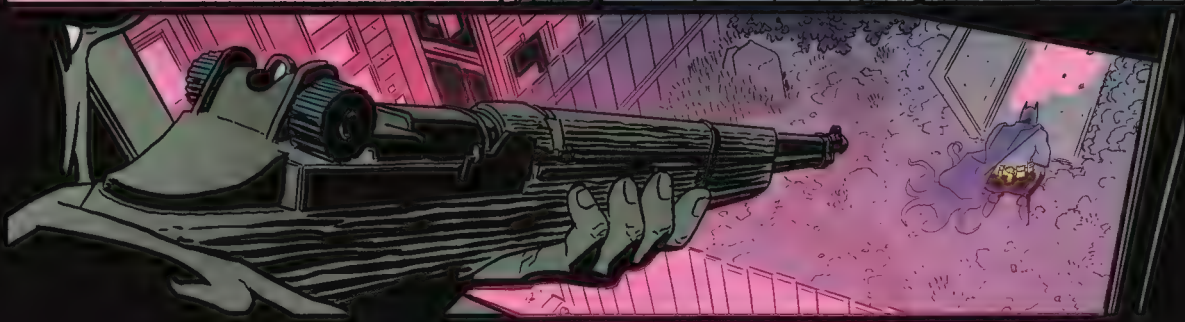
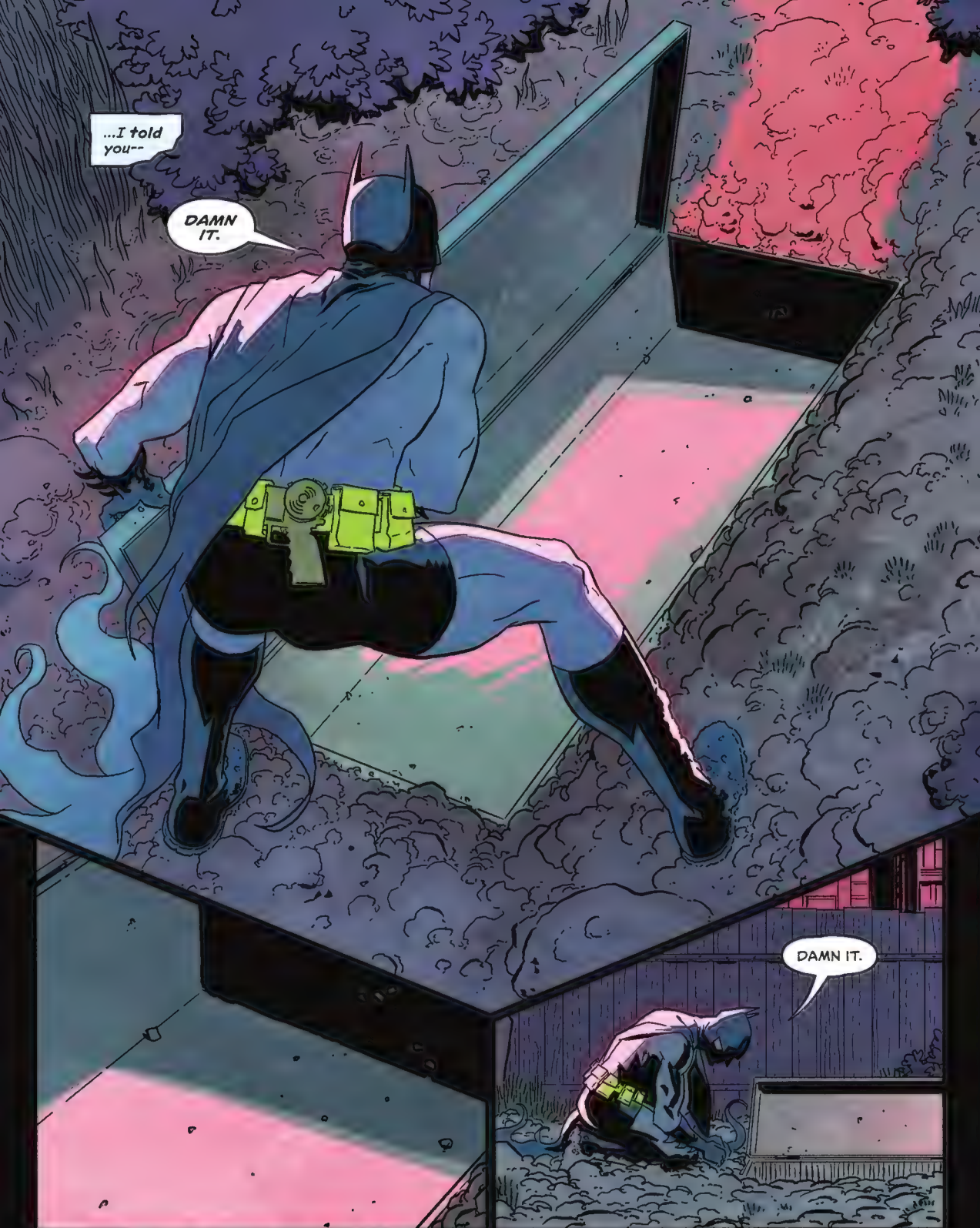
A comic book panel showing Batman in the trench. He is looking down at a rectangular metal box that he has just uncovered. The box is set into the ground, and the trench is filled with dark, disturbed earth. In the background, there is a wooden fence and a building with red shutters.

*The box is old. But
that doesn't mean
what's inside it is.*

*The perfect
size for a body.*

A comic book panel showing Batman looking down into the trench. He is looking at the rectangular metal box that he has just uncovered. The box is set into the ground, and the trench is filled with dark, disturbed earth. In the background, there is a wooden fence and a building with red shutters.

*I told you,
Gotham...*



By the sound of the gun, it's a .30 caliber rifle.

It is fired from above me, 140 degrees east, from approximately 300 meters away.

This is good, as it means I can pinpoint the shooter as being located in one of only four windows that aren't boarded up.

It suggests the M1 Garand--once a common service weapon for military men, now fallen out of favor.

Therefore, by the time I hear the shot I have begun to build a profile of the shooter in my head.

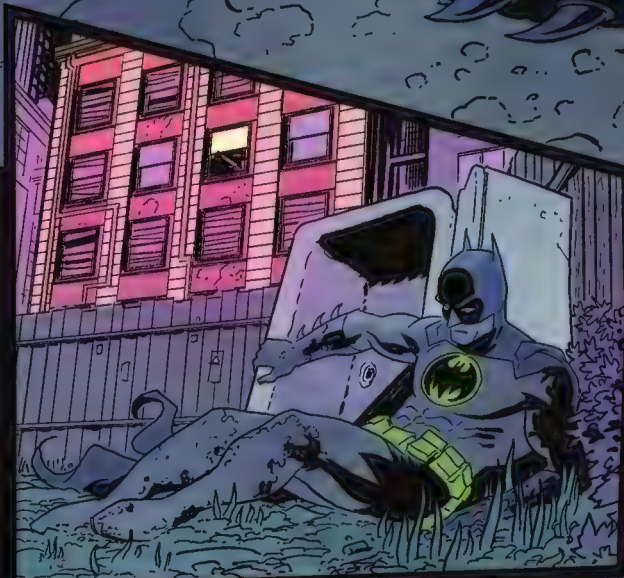
Unfortunately, even a small-caliber bullet, fired from an old, poorly serviced rifle, moves faster than sound.

Which means by the time I hear the shot...

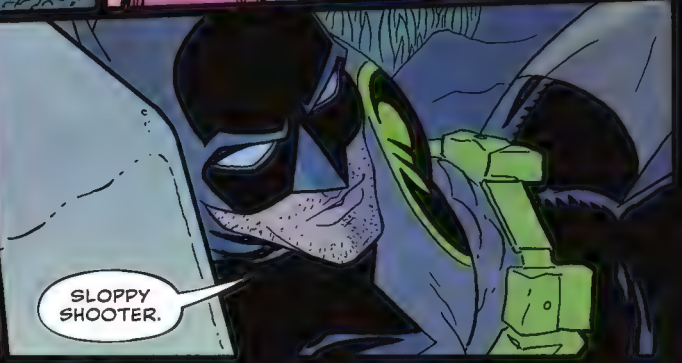
AGGH!



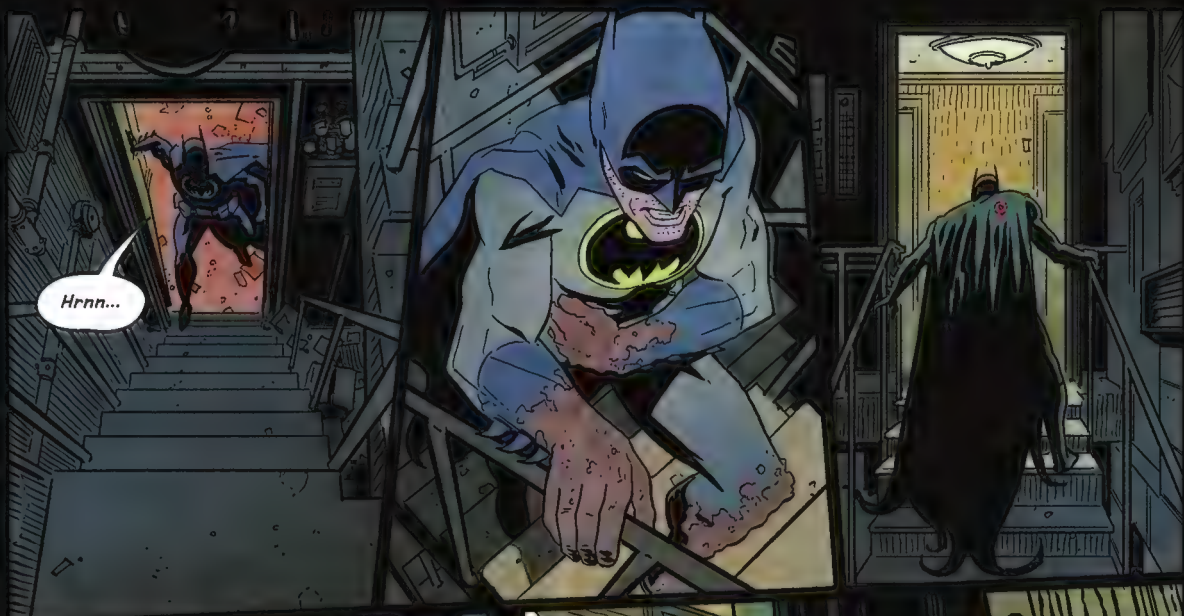
...said bullet
is lodged in
my back.



Pfft.



SLOPPY
SHOOTER.





THOSE
DAYS ARE A
BIT BEHIND
ME.



WHY
COULDN'T
YOU HAVE JUST
GONE AWAY?

I'M
ALMOST DEAD.
LUNG'S PACKED IN,
HEART ALMOST
DONE, TOO.

WHY
COULDN'T YOU
HAVE JUST LET
ME DO THIS FOR
THEM? FOR THE
ROOKERY.



YOU WERE
ONE OF THEM,
BACK IN THE
DAY, WEREN'T
YOU?

THE
RED HOOD
GANG.

AND NOW
YOU'RE DYING, BUT
SOME POOR WOMAN
HAD TO DIE *FIRST*
BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T
WANT YOUR LEGACY OF
THUGGERY TO BE
FORGOTTEN.

PATHETIC.



SHE
WAS *MY*
SWEETHEART...
BUT SHE WAS
STEPPIN' OUT
WITH A COP.

"WE DID IT AT
NOON. BURIED HER OUT
THERE IN THE GARDEN.
BROAD DAYLIGHT.

"EVERYONE KNEW,
AND EVERYONE KNEW
TO SAY NOTHING. THAT
WAS THE POINT.

"EVERYONE KNEW
NOT TO *SPEAK*
ABOUT THE RED
HOOD GANG.

WE DEMANDED
RESPECT. AND IN
RETURN, WE SETTLED
ANY DISPUTES IN
THE ROOKERY.

SO EVERYONE
KNEW TO TREAT
EACH *OTHER*
WITH RESPECT.



LOOK AT
IT ALL--NOW
I'M THE ONLY
ONE LEFT.



SO I DUG HER UP,
YEAH. SHE WASN'T
DOING ANYONE NO
GOOD DOWN THERE
IN THE DIRT.

I FIGURED
IF PEOPLE THOUGHT
THE HOODS WERE BACK,
THEY MIGHT BE NICER
TO EACH OTHER.
JUST IN CASE.



THEN
YOU CAME
ALONG.

YOU
CAME ALONG
AND YOU WON'T
LEAVE.



I'VE BEEN
IN THE ROOKERY A
LONG, LONG TIME. I'VE
HEARD EVERY RUMOR,
EVERY MYTH THAT'S
GROWN FROM THIS
PLACE.



BUT YOU?
YOU'RE TRYING TO
PULL IT ALL APART.
TRYING TO ERASE
IT ALL.



THAT'S
WHY I SHOT
YOU.

AND THAT'S
WHY YOU'RE
BLEEDING OUT
NOW.

I'M FI--
fuh--



--fuh...

YOU
SHOULD HAVE
JUST GONE
AWAY.

THE
ROOKERY
DOESN'T
NEED YOU.



IT KNOWS
WHAT IT IS. IT
KNOWS HOW TO
LOOK AFTER
ITSELF.



AND
WITHOUT YOU
HERE...

DC COMICS PRESENTS
BATMAN: DARK PATTERNS

PAREIDOLIA



DAN WATTERS: Writer
TRIONA FARRELL: Colorist
ARIANNA TURTURRO: Editor

HAYDEN SHERMAN: Artist
FRANK CVETKOVIC: Letterer
ROB LEVIN: Group Editor

HAYDEN SHERMAN: Cover Artist
MARTIN SIMMONDS: Variant Cover Artist
Batman created by BOB KANE with BILL FINGER



TO BE CONTINUED...

DC
WORLDS
COLLIDE



EMERGENCY HAIR
APPOINTMENT.

GOT MY NAILS DONE, IN CASE
THE GLOVES COME OFF

SPENT HALF MY PAYCHECK
ON FRENCH PERFUME.

WHICH IS GOING TO BE WEIRD IF I END
UP HAVING TO PUNCH SOMEBODY.

"GEE, BATGIRL. YOUR
FIST FEELS LIKE A
BASEBALL BAT, BUT
IT SMELLS LIKE
VIOLETS IN PARIS!"

WHAT AM I
EVEN DOING?

I SHOULD HAVE ASKED.

I SHOULD HAVE JUST WORKED
UP THE COURAGE TO ASK.

HE CALLED OUT OF NOWHERE,
WHILE I WAS IN THE SHOWER.



HEY, BABS.
YOU DOING
ANYTHING
TONIGHT?

UH...

FEEL LIKE
GOING OUT,
JUST YOU
AND ME?

UH...



GREAT!
OH, AND
BARBARA...

UH...

...BRING
YOUR WORK
CLOTHES.



SHOULDA
ASKED,
BARBARA.

BECAUSE NOW
YOU DON'T
EVEN KNOW...

DC
WORLDS
COLLIDE

...IS THIS A DATE
OR A STAKEOUT,
NIGHTWING?

HEY,
BATGIRL.
THANKS FOR
COMING.

OKAY. NO
FLOWERS,
NO CANDY.

IT'S A STAKEOUT.

THIS WAY
TO YOUR TABLE,
MADEMOISELLE.

YOU LOOK
NICE.

OKAY, OKAY.
IT'S DEFINITELY
A DATE.

RIGHT? GOTTA
BE A DATE.

THAT VIEW.

CRIMINALS
COMMIT
CRIMES
JUST TO
GET THIS
VIEW.

BUT FOR
ME, IT'S
ALWAYS
BEEN THE
HAIR.

I COULD SWIM IN THAT
HEAD OF HAIR, I SWEAR.

BATGIRL,
ARE YOU
LISTENING
TO ME?

YES.
SORT
OF.

I MIGHT HAVE MISSED SOME OF IT.

I PICKED UP A
SNACK FOR
US--WE MAY
BE HERE
AWHILE.

TRINCI DI TONNO
CON POMODORI
OKAY? IT'S FROM
FIERI'S.

DATE.

GOT A TIP THE
MUSEUM'S GONNA
GET BOOSTED
SOMETIME
TONIGHT.

STAKEOUT.

YOU'RE
GOING TO LOVE
THIS. BEST IN
THE CITY.

WE'VE BEEN FRIENDS
SINCE WE WERE KIDS.

NEVER QUITE PULLED THE
TRIGGER ON ANYTHING MORE.

DC
WORLDS
COLLIDE

BUT I HAVE SURE ENOUGH GIVEN IT CONSIDERABLE THOUGHT.

A MUSEUM HEIST? WHAT DO YOU NEED ME FOR?

IT'S THE GOTHAM MUSEUM OF ANTIQUITIES, BABS.

AND YOU'RE THE SMARTEST PERSON I KNOW.

WELL, I MEAN... FAIR.

OKAY, I'M IN. WHO GAVE YOU THE TIP?

CATWOMAN.

CATWOMAN?

WE'RE TAKING TIPS FROM CRIMINALS NOW?

DID SHE SAY WHO WAS BREAKING IN?

SHE DIDN'T. SHE JUST SAID BRING BACK-UP.

MOVEMENT IN THE GALLERY. YOU READY?

YEAH. SOME WEIRD ARTIFACT, NAMED AFTER A LEGEND.

"PANDORA'S BOX," SHE CALLED IT.

OH.

THAT'S NOT GOOD.

LET'S DO IT. DO WE KNOW WHAT THEY'RE AFTER, EVEN?

DC WORLDS COLLIDE PRESENTS

UNDER A
BATARANG
MOON, Part One

writer GAIL SIMONE art POP MHAN
colors HI-FI letters JOSH REED
editor MICHAEL MCCALISTER

NEXT: CAT OUT OF THE BOX!

THE DC ALL IN SAGA CONTINUES!



ABSOLUTE
POWER

ALL IN
SPECIAL

JUSTICE
LEAGUE
UNLIMITED

BATMAN • SUPERMAN
WORLD'S
FINEST

WE ARE
YESTERDAY

APRIL - JUNE 2025



FALL 2025

JUSTICE
LEAGUE
UNLIMITED

JULY - SEPTEMBER 2025
LEGION OF DARKSEID

SUPERMAN



ALL IN

THE BIGGEST BATTLES YET START THIS FALL...

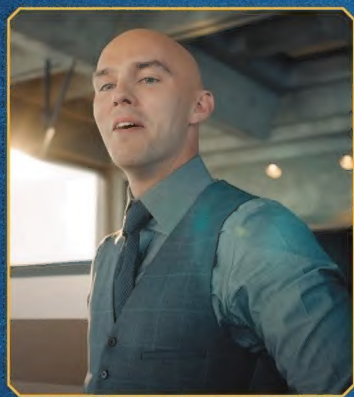
SUPERMAN

INTERVIEW WITH NICHOLAS HOULT

Lex Luthor has been called many things: criminal genius, ruthless mogul, Superman's ultimate nemesis. But in James Gunn's *Superman*, Nicholas Hoult brings a new depth to the iconic villain, exploring his motivations with chilling sincerity and a surprising sense of purpose. We caught up with Nicholas to talk about his take on Lex, tapping into the mind of a man who sees himself as humanity's last line of defense.

When you first read the script, what jumped out at you?

I think the thing that jumped out of me was that it was a James Gunn script and, with his style of writing, you can instantly imagine what this film becomes. Having seen and loved a lot of his work, reading the script, I was like, 'Oh, fantastic. It's James Gunn's take on Superman's story and world and all these exciting characters and ideas that he's focused in on from the comics.' So, that's what was thrilling about it.



Who is Lex Luthor and what are his objectives in this film?

Apparently, Lex Luthor's the villain, which is sad for me because I love him as a character. I think that was one of the things that James has really nailed in this script. Lex is the bad guy for the story, but there's also a lot of things in his character and in his ideas and persona that maybe are right and aren't initially too crazy. As misguided as he might be, he kind of believes in his soul that he's doing the best thing for humanity, and can protect them.



What is it about Lex that has remained iconic over the decades?

He's timeless because he has evolved so much throughout the comics from that initial conception of him as the nemesis of Superman. That's what has been really fun for me as an actor—to go through and pick the different eras and then look and go, 'Okay, well, what's handy and what's useful for me playing this Lex in this script and this story?'

And when you see the film, I think there's something that's very truthful and honest about Lex, particularly in relation to the more recent comics, and although his execution is always perhaps questionable, a lot of Lex's core motives and beliefs are actually very understandable in terms of what he's trying to protect.



There's this idea that I've been hanging on to, this idea that Lex—as evil as he might appear—has this deep love for humanity, and sees himself almost as the only person smart enough and aware enough to protect them from what could potentially be a very dangerous scenario with this alien kind of taking over and being omni-powerful.



So, it's exciting. Whenever you're playing a villain, a bad character, whatever, what's fun about that for me is breaking them apart and going, 'Well, actually, no.' You make a few key little twists in your brain wiring, and then you realize that it makes complete sense where they're coming at it from.

DC STUDIOS

SUPERMAN
IN THEATERS JULY 11!

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The Last Kryptonian-DCP

